DAWN

KARACHI Sunday, November 2, 2025

METRO South

KARACHI

Sunset	**05:52** pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow)	**06:39** am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum	**20°C**
Maximum	**34°C**
Humidity	**47%**
Outlook	**Mostly Sunny**

Arsenal cruise against Burnley, United held

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Two 'SRA militants' held in CTD raid

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Counter Terror Department and an intelligence agency jointly carried out an intelligence-based operation in Machhar Colony and apprehended two suspects, said to be associated with the outlawed Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army (SRA)

The suspects were identified as Sarmad Ali Raza and Ghani Aman Chandio, the CTD said, adding that two hand grenades and explosives were recovered from their custody.

They had a past criminal record as they were allegedly involved in five terrorism cases registered in Hyderabad, Jamshoro and Larkana.

The CTD had registered two cases against the suspects under relevant sections of the Anti-Terrorism Act and Explosive Act.

Describing them as "wanted militants of the SRA", a CTD press release claimed that they were planning to target law enforcers, particularly the Sindh Police and the CTD personnel.

Meanwhile, police and Rangers on Saturday claimed to have arrested four suspected extortionists in separate incidents.

The Special Investigation Unit (SIU) conducted a raid in Khwaja Ajmer Nagri and arrested three suspects, identified as Awais, Shahid and Abu Bakar. They were said to be members of a gang of extortionists described by the police as "Bahadur PMT Group."

In another incident, Pakistan Rangers (Sindh), acting on a tip-off, conducted an action in the Nayabad area of Lyari and apprehended suspect Tanveer alilas Walari, a member of the Wasiullah Lakho group. He was involved in sending an extortion chit to a builder in Moosa Lana, Lyari. He was also wanted by the police in an encounter case in Pak Colony in Jan 2025. He was also arrested by the Rangers in 2024 and sent to jail.

WORK is underway to construct the Karimabad underpass. The Karachi Development Authority had launched the project in 2023, claiming it would be open to traffic by January 2025. However, due to rising costs and slow pace of work, the project is far from completion, and no inauguration date is in sight.—INP

Two more die in Karachi, one in Hyderabad as dengue grips Sindh

• Death toll confirmed by health dept reaches to six • Over 1,400 test positive in Karachi, Hyderabad during 24 hours • Experts warn situation is turning critical as people fail to take the infection seriously • True scale of outbreak unclear as no official mechanism is in place to collect data from private health facilities

By Faiza Ilyas

KARACHI: The alarming situation over the dengue outbreak in the province, especially in Hyderabad and Karachi, persists as the provincial health department on Saturday confirmed the deaths of three more patients from the mosquito-borne viral infection, raising the (official) tally for the current year to six.

According to the department's data, two patients — a 30-year-old female resident of Malir and a 65-year-old male resident of district West — have died at the Sindh Infectious Diseases Hospital and Research Centre (SIDH&RC) over the past two days (Oct 30-31st).

An 18-year-old girl, resident of Latifabad, died at the Liaquat University Hospital, Hyderabad, on Saturday.

It also showed that out of the 5,000 plus tests conducted for detection of dengue fever in the province in 24 hours, a total of 1,411 patients tested positive. Of them, 618 and 793 patients tested positive in Karachi and Hyderabad, respectively.

A total of 106 and 93 new patients were also admitted to the public and private hospitals, respectively, in 24 hours.

"The dengue situation, especially in Karachi, is very serious. Every third patient presenting at clinics these days is being diagnosed with dengue fever," Dr Abdul Ghafoor Shoro, senior general physician representing the Pakistan Medical Association said.

Complications, he pointed out, were occurring due to self-medication and severe inadequate hydration. "Some medications, including some pain killers, can cause a low platelet count, which can lead to excessive bleeding. Second, patients must keep themselves well hydrated to avoid complications and consult a qualified general practitioner."

Unaccounted deaths

Sources said the situation was far more serious than what's depicted by official data and that the official figures didn't represent the ground reality.

They pointed out that there was no official mechanism in place to get feedback from private clinics operating in every nook and corner of a locality as well as private hospitals. Many people constrained by their financial resources didn't even opt for laboratory tests.

The sources said the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) this year has so far seen six deaths from dengue while the SIDH & RC recorded 12 deaths — including the recently reported two mortalities — with 500 admissions from the illness.

"Both patients were brought in critical condition and could hardly survive for a few hours. Unfortunately, people are not taking the viral infection seriously that can turn deadly in patients experiencing internal bleeding," a senior doctor at the hospital said, emphasising the need for disease monitoring and adequate hydration during the illness and vector-control measures.

According to experts, most people with dengue have mild or no symptoms and will get better in one to two weeks. Symptoms may include: high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, muscle and joint pains, nausea, vomiting and rash.

Individuals who are infected for the second time are at greater risk of severe dengue. The symptoms of severe dengue often come after the fever has gone away and may include: severe abdominal pain, persistent vomiting, rapid breathing, bleeding gums or nose, fatigue, restlessness and blood in vomit or stool.

Second edition of maritime expo, conference begins tomorrow

By Shazia Hasan

KARACHI: The second edition of Pakistan International Maritime Expo and Conference (PIMEC), to be held from Nov 3 to 6 at the Expo Centre under the overall responsibility of the Pakistan Navy and with the support and patronage of federal and provincial departments, will see the participation of 45 countries, including Pakistan.

This was announced by Commander Karachi (COMKAR) Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi HI(M) during a media briefing at the Expo Centre on Saturday.

PIMEC's 2025 edition will have 150 local and 28 international exhibitors participating from across the world. Moreover, 133 international delegations from Europe, Asia, North and South America and the Far East, including representatives from 44 countries such as the United Kingdom, Italy, Iran, Turkiye, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Australia, Egypt and China, will also be attending the event.

In addition to the local exhibitors, PIMEC 2025 will also feature pavilions by the governments of Sindh and Balochistan, showcasing potential and investment opportunities in the country's maritime sector. Other things to look forward to include the latest innovations in shipbuilding, port development, marine engineering, logistics, renewable energy, blue economy initiatives, seabed resource exploitation, maritime tourism, naval and maritime security technologies, etc.

The COMKAR also highlighted that PIMEC 2025 will encompass a wide-ranging maritime exhibition, business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-government (B2G) meetings, signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), and media interactions.

"Pakistan is blessed with a long coastline, deep sea ports, an abundance of living and non-living marine resources, coupled with a strategic location at the crossroads of major routes. Our country stands poised to play a pivotal role in the future maritime trade and connectivity," he said.

Later, to a question about the difference in PIMEC this time from its first edition, the COMKAR said that it was previously held in 2023 when they had 143 exhibitors. That number has grown this time. Also, it was held along with the Aman exercises. "We saw the signing of half a billion dollars worth of MoUs in 2023, of which 90 per cent materialised into proper contacts and agreements," he pointed out.

Former Sindh CM Aftab Shaban Mirani passes away

President, PM express deep sorrow over demise of seasoned PPP leader

By Imran Ayub

KARACHI: Senior Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader and former chief minister of Sindh Aftab Shaban Mirani passed away on Saturday after a brief illness, his party and family said.

They stated that he had been unwell for several days and was recently discharged from a private hospital in Karachi.

According to family sources, his funeral prayers were offered at Masjid Baitus Salam in DHA on Saturday night, and he was laid to rest at the Gizri graveyard.

A large number of people, including Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah and other PPP leaders, attended his last rites.

Mirani, a senior politician from Shikarpur, had a long and distinguished political career spanning several decades. He was among the senior-most leaders of the PPP and was known for his close association with the late prime ministers Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto.

He served as the 18th chief minister of Sindh in 1990. Later, during Benazir Bhutto's second tenure, he held the key portfolio of defence minister of Pakistan from October 1993 to November 1996.

Mirani was elected multiple times to the National Assembly of Pakistan from his home constituency in Shikarpur, representing the PPP. He won seats in the general elections of 2008, 2013 and 2018, serving as a member of the NA from 2008 till 2023.

Over the years, he played an active role in parliamentary affairs and was respected for his moderate views and strong party loyalty.

President Asif Ali Zardari expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Mirani, calling him "a senior parliamentarian and a loyal leader of the PPP."

In his condolence message, the president said that Mirani's political wisdom and commitment to democratic values would always be remembered.

President Zardari also prayed for the departed soul and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also expressed grief over the passing of the senior politician, saying that the late PPP leader rendered valuable services for the country and its people.

"Aftab Shaban Mirani's political and public service contributions will be remembered with respect," the PM said, praying for eternal peace for the departed soul and strength for his family in this difficult time.

CM Shah, who visited Mirani at a private hospital last week, also expressed deep sorrow, calling his death a great loss to the province and the PPP.

Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon also expressed deep sorrow and grief over the passing of Mirani and said that with his demise, the PPP has lost a sincere, loyal, and dedicated leader devoted to public service.

Trailer runs over, kills student on Mauripur Road

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A trailer ran over and killed a teenage motorcyclist on Mauripur Road on Saturday, police said.

South DIG Syed Asad Raza said that two students of a private school were riding a motorcycle when the heavy vehicle hit them, resulting in critical injuries. They were taken to the Dr Ruth Pfau Civil Hospital Karachi, where Asmatullah, 18, was pronounced dead while Naveed, 18, was admitted for treatment.

The driver responsible for the incident escaped from the spot, leaving behind the trailer that was impounded by the police.

Peace & Pieces inaugurated at Culture Fest

Exhibition by seven artists from four countries will continue till 4th; five short films screened at Arts Council

By Peerzada Salman

KARACHI: An engaging exhibition, the first in a series of six, titled *Peace and Pieces*, was inaugurated at the Arts Council of Pakistan at the World Culture Festival 2025 on Saturday evening.

The show features artworks of seven artists from four countries — Bangladesh, Comoros, Sweden and Argentina. They are, Niharika Momtaz, Bubly Barna, Suborna Morsheda and Shambhu Acharya from Bangladesh, Yaz from the Comoros, Domi Forest from Sweden and Adrian Bojko from Argentina.

The works range from a large mural on one of the walls in Jaun Elia lawn to ball pen-on-paper to oil-on-canvas exhibits. Apart from the mural, the rest are displayed at the council's Ahmed Parvez Gallery. The subjects they touch upon vary from memory and belonging to displacement and individualism.

What makes the show even more interesting is the common element in the pieces — despite coming from different cultural backgrounds and using multiple techniques — which is, the free-flowing style of the participating artists. They all seem to take immense delight in what they do. By that, one means that oftentimes paintings and sculptures exude seriousness that their makers work with. The ones at the gallery and in the lawn speak volumes for the seven creative souls' free-spirited attitude to art.

For example, even if the artist is focusing on as hard-to-define subject such as the tension between the inner self and the quietude outside, the flair that the viewer sees in the frame makes the artwork look as if it's a poem written in free verse.

Similarly, displacement, one of the oft-discussed topics in the 21st century, is dealt with the kind of creative abandon that only artists can.

Speaking at the inauguration of the show, Argentina's Ambassador to Pakistan Sebastian Sayus said that it's for the first time that a piece of Argentinian culture is being shared in Pakistan.

He urged the council to keep holding the festival as no matter how far the Argentinian are, they will come as their culture is closer to Pakistan's.

Nepal's ambassador Rita Dhital also expressed her delight at inviting Nepali artists, like Madan Gopal, and showing Nepali films at the festival.

Shahid Rassam and Ahmed Shah also spoke.

The exhibition will conclude on Nov 4.

Film Screening

Another segment on the second day of the festival was the screening of five short films.

They were *The School's Wall, The Last Endless Night, Rasm-i-Duri, Rohi* and *A Heart So Gentle.*

CHIEF Secretary Asif Hyder Shah admires, alongside Arts Council President Ahmed Shah, an artwork displayed at the exhibition.—Fahim Siddiqi / White Star